

Patent Claims

1. Method for inputting data into a system, in which

5 - in response to an input by a user, one or more terms, which are as appropriate as possible for this input, are determined as identified terms

- a confidence value is defined for each of these identified terms, and

10 - the terms associated with an input are dealt with further, taking account of their confidence values.

2. Method according to Claim 1, **characterized in that** the confidence value is a value from an interval between a number, preferably 1, corresponding to reliable identification, and that for an input which cannot be identified, corresponding to 0, including these values.

3. Method according to Claim 1 ~~or 2~~, **characterized in that** the identified terms are announced and/or displayed to a user as a system response, starting with the term identified as being the most reliable, on the basis of their confidence values.

25 4. Method according to Claim 1 or 2, **characterized in that**, for each identified term, those data records which are appropriate for the identified terms are looked for in a list of stored data records.

30 5. Method according to Claim 4, **characterized in that**, when data are being input, the input is completed by a data record appropriate for the identified term, using a form-based dialogue structure.

35 6. Method according to Claim 5, **characterized in that** the data input is completed in response to a request signal.

aa 7. Method according to Claim 5 ~~or 6~~, **characterized in that** the number of data records found can be reduced by inputting one or more further terms.

8. Method according to Claims 4 to 7, characterized in that each stored data record is assigned a probability value, which describes the probability of the data record being used again. X

5 ~~9. Method according to Claim 8, characterized in that the probability value for a data record corresponds to the ratio of the number of times this data record has been used to the total number of times all the data records have been used.~~

10 ~~10. Method according to Claim 8 or 9, characterized in that an announcement/display sequence of the data records is defined as a function of their probability value and the confidence value of the associated term.~~

15 ~~11. Method according to Claims 3 to 10, characterized in that the identified terms are announced and/or displayed individually and successively, or as a selection list for confirmation or selection.~~ X

20 ~~12. Method according to one of the preceding claims, characterized in that, if the input is a voice input, the confidence value is established in the normal manner for voice recognition.~~

25 ~~13. Method according to Claim 12, characterized in that the voice input by a user is first of all subjected to speaker identification, and in that the subsequent voice recognition process is carried out taking account of the result of the speaker identification.~~

30 ~~14. Method according to Claims 1 to 11, characterized in that the input is made via an alphanumeric input device, with the terms entered in this way first of all being assigned the confidence value for reliable identification.~~ X

35 ~~15. Method according to Claim 14, characterized in that an incorrectly alphanumerically input term, which has already frequently been input incorrectly in a manner specific to a particular user, is assigned a~~

